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ANTHROPOLOGIC MISCELLANEA

Geographic Terms of Kootenay Origin.—Hardly any of the Indian tribes of northwestern America have passed away, or will pass away, without leaving in the geographic nomenclature of their habitat some evidence of their former existence. Mr Marcus Baker's paper, "Survey of the Northwestern Boundary of the United States, 1857-1861," which appears as Bulletin No. 174 of the U. S. Geological Survey (Washington, 1900), contains, among other things, a list of places, camp-sites, stations, etc., along the forty-ninth parallel in Washington, Idaho, and Montana, from the records in the survey reports,—the linguistic material seems to have been passed upon by the late George Gibbs. Of the names in question the following, in the opinion of the present writer, have been taken from the Kootenay language of northern Idaho and southeastern British Columbia:

1. *Acklew*. Name of a cache and creek near Kootenay river. This is evidently for *āqLū*, 'snow.'

2. *A-kam-i-na*, east fork of Kishenehn creek. A foot-note says, "*kam-i-na*, watershed." But the Lower Kootenay word *āqkā'minā* signifies 'creek,' or 'small stream.' A stream in the southern part of the Kootenay district (B. C.) appears on the maps as Akamina, i. e., 'creek.'

3. *A-kin-īs-sahtl*, Flathead river. Perhaps intended for *āqkinis-gōāl*, the name of the *Carex scoparia*, one of the *Cyperaceæ* found in this region.

4. *A-kin-kwo-nāh-ki*, branch of Flathead river, heading with Tobacco river. This would seem to be *āqkink'on'ākē*, in which the first component may be *āqkink'ō*, 'forked stick on which pots are suspended over a camp-fire.'

5. *Akis-ka-klail*, crossing of stream south of Joseph's prairie. This is evidently a corruption of the Indian name of 'Joseph's prairie,' an open piece of country at Cranbrook, B. C., which was called after a former chief of the Kootenays known as Joseph. The proper form of the Kootenay word is *ā'qkiskā'kLēēt*, or *ā'qgisgā'kLēēt*, signifying, literally, 'twin prairies,' or 'two prairies together,' the chief components being *kis* (*gis*), 'two together,' and *'kLē'ēt*, a radical-suffix 'prairie, extent of land,'—seen in *ā'qkinū'kLē'ēt*, 'prairie, meadow, plain.' A word of similar formation is *āqkisk'Enūk* ('twin lakes'), the Kootenay name of the two lakes at the headwaters of Columbia river.

6. *Ak-káph-kleh*, falls of Kootenay river, Flathead county, Montana. The proper form is *ā'qkQāā'pLē*, 'waterfall, cataract.' The word seems to signify, also, 'water gushing forth from a spring.' It is likewise used in the form *ā'qkāQā'pLēk*.

7. *Ak-o-nó-ho*, creek tributary to Tobacco river. This seems to be the Upper Kootenay *ā'qkinōQō'nūk*, 'creek, small stream,' the equivalent of the Lower Kootenay *āqkā'mina*. But the Indians call Tobacco river *ā'qkonō'Qō*.

8. *Ak-swak*, creek from south (Fisher creek?) at bend of the Kootenay.

9. *Ak-īlak-a*, creek above Kishenehn, tributary to Flathead river. Probably *āqklā'kā*, 'fish-spear.'

10. *A-kwote-kdtl-nam*, Chief mountain (or Waterton) lake, upper part across boundary. The Kootenay form would be *āqk'ōtēkā'Lnām*.

11. *Ar-ka-klune* (also *Acaclunah*), a creek in the Mooyie region.

12. *Chuk-kóse*, the Mooyie lakes in British Columbia. Perhaps a by-form of *tcēk'ū'nā*, 'small.' The Upper Kootenays generally call these lakes by the common English name Mooyie, or Mooyai. This word is derived from the French-Canadian *mouillé*, 'wet, rainy,' this being the rainy region of the country.

13. *Ka-cha-dtl*, Indian village, Acklew cache. This is evidently *kā tsāhāL*, 'my (*kā*) grass.'

14. *Kat-ldh-woke*, creek running to Flathead river through Boundary pass. Evidently *kālā'wōk*, or *kōLā'wōk*, 'prairie-rose' (the *Rosa pisocarpa*), common in this region.

15. *Ka-yak-ka*, creek from south (Lake creek), tributary to Kootenay below the falls.

16. *Kin-nook-kleht-nān-na*, creek running east from divide of Rockies to Chief Mountain or Waterton lake. This is a decapitated form of *āqkinūkLē'ēt nā'na*, 'little prairie, little meadow,' from *ā'qkinūkLē'ēt*, 'prairie,' and *nāna*, 'small, little.'

17. *Kish-ne-néhna*, mountains in long. 114° 15'. The last component is perhaps *nāna*, 'small.' But Kishenehn is given as the name of a camp, creek, and mountain in long. 114° 20'.

18. *Kit-lat-laā-nook*, creek heading east of Mount Wilson and emptying into lower (Chief Mountain or Waterton) lake. Evidently a decapitated form of *āqkilāLā'Enūk*, 'a bend in a body of water (lake).'

19. *Skits-ooh-nān-na*, small creek tributary to the Kootenay. The last component is *nāna*, 'small.' The first is perhaps identical with *Skitsuish*, one of the names of the so-called Cœur d'Alène Indians of Idaho.

20. *Yah-kwoo-kdh-keh*, the Chelemta cache; also called *Swoots-kdse*. The Kootenay form is *Yā'k'ōkā'kē*, by which name the Indians at present call Bonner's ferry (or Dick Fry's) in Idaho. *Swootskōse* is probably Kootenay also.

21. *Yahk*, station and river in Flathead county, Montana. The Kootenay name of the river is *Yā'k*, or *Yā'k'*.

22. *Yak-in-a-kahk* (also *Yokinakah*), creek and pass in Montana. This is identical with *Yā'k'nōkā'kē*, the Kootenay name of Dutch creek, one of the tributaries of Columbia river in the north of the Kootenay district.

23. *Yaks-koo-nāk-he*, first creek (Ramy creek) from north below the bend of the Kootenay.

24. *Yak-toók-i-na*, third creek (Quartz creek) from the northern tributary of the Kootenay below the bend.

ALEXANDER F. CHAMBERLAIN.

Cliff Dwellers' National Park.—On January 12th Representative Lacey introduced the following bill (No. 8323) in the national House of Representatives, which was referred to the Committee on the Public Lands and ordered to be printed :

"A BILL to set apart certain lands in the Territory of New Mexico as a public park, to be known as The Cliff Dwellers' National Park, for the purpose of preserving the prehistoric caves and ruins and other works and relics therein.

"*Be it enacted*, etc., that there is hereby reserved from settlement, entry, sale, or other disposal, and set apart as a public reservation, all those certain tracts, pieces, or parcels of land lying and being situate in the Territory of New Mexico, and within the boundaries particularly described as follows :

"Beginning at the northwest corner of the San Ildefonso pueblo grant, in township twenty north, range seven east, New Mexico principal meridian, New Mexico ; thence southerly along the western boundary of said grant to the northern boundary of the Ramon Vigil grant ; thence westerly along the boundary of said grant to the northwest corner thereof ; thence southeasterly along the boundary of said grant to the Rio Grande del Norte River ; thence in a general southwesterly direction down the Rio Grande del Norte River along its right bank to its point of intersection with the township line between townships seventeen and eighteen north ; thence westerly along said township line to its intersection with the range line between ranges four and five east ; thence northerly along said range line to the southern boundary of the Baca location numbered one ; thence easterly

along the boundary of said location to the southeast corner thereof ; thence northerly along the eastern boundary of said location to the northeast corner thereof ; thence in a northeasterly direction to the southwest corner of the Juan José Lobato grant ; thence northeasterly along the southern boundary of said grant to its intersection with the section line between sections eighteen and nineteen, in township twenty-one north, range seven east ; thence easterly along said section line to its intersection with the western boundary of the San Juan pueblo grant ; thence southerly along the western boundary of said grant to its southwest corner ; thence due south to the northern boundary of the Santa Clara pueblo grant ; thence westerly along the boundary of said grant to the northwest corner thereof ; thence southerly along the western boundary of said grant to its intersection with the northern boundary of the San Ildefonso pueblo grant ; thence westerly along the boundary of said grant to the northwest corner thereof, the place of beginning.

“ SEC. 2. That said public park shall be known as The Cliff Dwellers' National Park, and shall be under the exclusive control of the Secretary of the Interior, whose duty it shall be to prescribe such rules and regulations and establish such service as he may deem necessary for the care and management of the same. Such regulations shall provide specifically for the preservation from injury or spoliation of the caves, ruins, and other works and relics of prehistoric or primitive man within said park.

“ SEC. 3. That the Secretary of the Interior be, and is hereby, authorized to permit examinations, excavations, and the gathering of objects of interest within said park by any person or persons whom he may deem properly qualified to conduct such examinations, excavations, or gatherings, subject to such rules and regulations as he may prescribe : *Provided, always,* That the examinations, excavations, and gatherings are undertaken for the benefit of some reputable museum, university, college, or other recognized scientific or educational institution, with a view to increasing the knowledge of such objects and aiding the general advancement of archæological science.

“ SEC. 4. That the Secretary of the Interior be, and is hereby, authorized, in the exercise of his discretion, to rent or lease, for terms not exceeding ten years, under rules and regulations to be made by him, pieces or parcels of ground within said park for the erection of such buildings as may be required for the accommodation of visitors.

“ SEC. 5. That all funds arising from the privileges granted hereunder shall be covered into the Treasury of the United States as a special fund to be expended in the care of said park.

"SEC. 6. That in cases in which a tract covered by an unperfected bona fide claim or by a patent is included within the limits of this park the settler or owner thereof may, if he desires to do so, relinquish the tract to the Government and may select in lieu thereof a tract of vacant surveyed non-mineral public land open to settlement, not exceeding in area the tract covered by his claim or patent, and approximately of the same value, to be determined under such rules and regulations as the Secretary of the Interior shall prescribe; and no charge shall be made in such cases for making the entry of record or issuing the patent to cover the tract selected: *Provided further*, That in cases of unperfected claims the requirements of the laws respecting settlement, residence, improvements, and so forth, are complied with on the new claims.

"SEC. 7. That all persons who shall unlawfully intrude upon said park, or who shall, without permission, injure or destroy any of the caves, ruins, or other works or relics therein of prehistoric or primitive man, or who shall, without permission, appropriate any object of antiquity therein or commit unauthorized injury or waste, in any form whatever, upon the lands or other public property therein, or who shall violate any of the rules and regulations prescribed hereunder, shall, upon conviction, be fined in a sum not more than one thousand dollars, or be imprisoned for a period not more than twelve months, or shall suffer both fine and imprisonment, in the discretion of the court."

Proposed American Anthropologic Association. — During the Convocation Week of 1901-02, at Chicago, there were meetings of the Section of Anthropology of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, the American Folk-Lore Society, and several other organizations. In connection with these meetings there was, on December 31, a conference of committees on the needs of American anthropology, appointed by the Anthropological Society of Washington, the American Ethnological Society, and the Section of Anthropology of the A. A. A. S. The participants in the conference were Franz Boas, Stewart Culin, Roland B. Dixon, George A. Dorsey, Livingston Farrand, J. Walter Fewkes, George G. MacCurdy, W J McGee, Frank Russell, and Frederick Starr. Although little constructive action was taken at Chicago, the conference resulted in a general feeling that more definite coöperation among American anthropologists would be advantageous.

Subsequently several of the conferees engaged in correspondence pursuant to the deliberations in Chicago, which soon served to bring out and strengthen the feeling that some sort of organization was need-

ful; and in the course of a few weeks preliminary steps were taken toward the formation of an association of American anthropologists of national character. The most important action was the selection of a number of prospective founders of the proposed association, from whom expressions were invited. Most of the anthropologists so addressed have replied, and nearly all of these decidedly favor organization. Accordingly, arrangements have been made for a founding meeting, to be held at Pittsburg in connection with the meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, in the audience room of Bellefield Church, on Monday, June 30, at 2 o'clock. Provisional arrangements are also under way for a scientific meeting of the new organization in connection with Section H (Anthropology) of the A. A. S. on Wednesday, July 2.

The most serious question brought out in the preliminary correspondence and conferences is, Shall the new association be strictly professional or of more general character? With the view of holding the settlement of this question in abeyance pending the completion of the organization, it was thought better by the Chicago conferees to limit invitations to the founding meeting to about forty of the leading anthropologists of the country.

The prospective founders, additional to the Chicago conferees, are: Frank Baker, D. P. Barrows, G. P. Bowditch, A. F. Chamberlain, Alice C. Fletcher, A. S. Gatschet, J. N. B. Hewitt, F. W. Hodge, W. H. Holmes, Walter Hough, A. E. Jenks, Aleš Hrdlička, A. L. Kroeber, Berthold Laufer, O. T. Mason, Washington Matthews, J. D. McGuire, M. L. Miller, James Mooney, C. B. Moore, E. S. Morse, W. W. Newell, C. L. Owen, J. W. Powell, F. W. Putnam, M. H. Saville, H. I. Smith, J. R. Swanton, Cyrus Thomas, E. S. Wood.

W J MCGEE.

American International Archeological Commission. — The following recommendation has been approved by the delegates of the Republics represented at the Second International American Conference, recently held in the City of Mexico:

"The Second International American Conference recommends, to the Republics here represented, that an 'American International Archeological Commission' be formed, through the appointment, by the President of each of the American Republics, of one or more members of such Commission; that each Government represented shall defray the expenses of its Commissioner or Commissioners; that such Commissioners shall be appointed for five years, and that they shall be subject to reappointment; that appropriations for the expenses incident

to the prosecution of the work and publications of the report of the Archeological Commission shall be made by the respective Governments subscribing, on the same basis as that on which the Bureau of the American Republics is supported; that the first meeting for the organization of the Commission, the election of officers and adoption of rules shall occur in the City of Washington, District of Columbia, United States of America, within two years from this date; that the Accounting Department of the Commission shall be exercised by the Bureau of the American Republics; that this Commission shall meet at least once in each year; that the Commission shall have the power to appoint sub-commissions, which shall be charged specially with the explorations or other work committed to their care; that sub-commissions may be appointed which shall cause the cleaning [excavation] and preservation of the ruins of the principal prehistoric cities, establishing at each of them a museum to contain objects of interest found in the locality, and at such exhumed cities to establish conveniences for the visiting public; that the Commission endeavor to establish an 'American International Museum' which is to become the center of all the investigations and interpretations, and that it be established in the city selected by the majority of the Republics acquiescing in this recommendation.

"Committees shall also be appointed to clean [excavate] and conserve the ruins of ancient cities, establishing in each of them a museum to contain the antiquities that may be gathered, and which is to afford all possible accommodations to visitors.

"The Archeological Commission and the sub-committees it may appoint will be subject in all matters to the laws of the signatory countries.

"Made and signed in the City of Mexico, on the 29th day of the month of January, one thousand nine hundred and two, in three copies, in Spanish, English and French, respectively, which shall be deposited in the Department of Foreign Relations of the Government of the United States of Mexico, in order that certified copies thereof be made to be forwarded through diplomatic agency to each one of the signatory States."

Study of Aboriginal Languages.—Rev. Thomas Thompson was sent by the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts, to America, in the spring of 1745, and spent six years in Monmouth county and its vicinity in New Jersey. In November, 1751, he was sent on a mission to the coast of Guinea, Africa, where he remained until 1756. The naïve description of his method of learning the Fanti

(Ashanti) language, extracted from his *An Account of Two Missionary Voyages*, etc., London, 1758, will interest those who have made similar attempts to acquire aboriginal languages in this country :

“ My Method in learning what I know of the *Fantee*, was by taking Pen and Paper to it ; first asking the Names of Things, and then entering them down in Writing, which for the greater Certainty and Exactness, I demanded at different Times, and of several Persons. But such Teachers the Blacks are, that notwithstanding all this Care used on my Part, I found some Time after upon Revisal of my Papers, that I had collected only an Heap of Falsities. For instead of giving a Word by itself, they would either join with it a Pronoun, or an Epithet, or else a Particle, or give the Plural Number for the Singular, and sometimes join a Substantive and Verb together instead of speaking the one singly by itself. There is that Impetuosity in their Temper which makes them speak their Words very quick. Besides they utter themselves in a kind of melted Voice, which makes their Pronunciation more indistinct, and what renders it yet more puzzling, they will speak the same Word different Ways ; as for Example, to signify a Tree, they say *Idweah*, and *Eduah*, and *Edweah*. The Matter is, they know they should speak something like it, but having no Standard for the Propriety of the Language, the same Person shall pronounce the Word with these several Variations. This is a Specimen of the misery of learning Languages without either the help of Books, or the Instruction of a proper Master.”

WILLIAM NELSON.

Casa Grande Ruin.—The Secretary of the Treasury has transmitted to Congress a communication from the Secretary of the Interior urging an appropriation of \$2200 for the repair of Casa Grande ruin, Arizona. In explanation of his request the Secretary of the Interior says : “ Casa Grande Ruin, located near Florence, Ariz., is one of the noteworthy relics of a prehistoric age and people living within the limits of the United States. The land on which it is located is part of 480 acres reserved from settlement by Executive order dated June 22, 1892. At the date of discovery by one Padre Kino, in 1694, it was in a ruinous condition, and since that time has been a subject of record by explorers and historians. The structure is built of the material known as cajon ; that is, puddled clay molded into walls and dried in the sun, and of perishable character. This memorable ruin, the custodian, Mr H. C. Mayo, reports, is fast falling into decay ; that the walls, by reason of their age and the action of the elements, are rapidly crumbling, and that some action must be immediately taken to prevent the same from entirely disappearing. He recommends that a roof of asphalt or corrugated iron be placed over the structure, leaving an opening on the sides and overreaching the same, in order that the rain may be prevented from touching the sides ; that the walls of the ruin

be filled in with cement to prevent their further decay, and also that the ruins be inclosed by a high barbed-wire fence in order to exclude trespassers. These repairs he regards as necessary to the preservation of the ruin, and estimates that \$2,200 would be sufficient to cover the expense of same. I therefore recommend that the above sum be appropriated by Congress for the preservation of this remarkable ruin."

The Broca Lectures.—Since the foundation, in 1884, of the Broca Lectureship of the Société d'Anthropologie de Paris, the following lectures have been delivered: 1884, DALLY: Eulogy of Broca. 1885, POZZI: Distinctive characters of the human brain. 1886, HAMY: Human races of the lower Nile valley. 1887, DUVAL (M.): Aphasia since Broca. 1888, LABORDE: Sensory-motor and olfactive nervous centers. 1889, HERVÉ: Alleged quadrumani. 1890, MANOUVRIER: Aptitudes and acts in their relations to anatomical constitution and external milieu. 1891, DARESTE: Experimental teratology. 1892, ZABOROWSKI: Disparity and future of human races. 1893, CAPITAN: The rôle of microbes in society. 1894, CHERVIN: The demographical position of France in Europe. 1895, VERNEAU: Negrillos and Ethiopians. 1897, DENIKER: Races and peoples of Europe. 1898, PAPILLAUT: Some laws concerning the growth and beauty of the human face. 1899, RAYNAUD (G.): Nature of man in ancient America. 1900, ZABOROWSKI: China and the Chinese. 1901, YVES GUYOT: Characters of social evolution and regression. The range of these lectures is quite wide, but one notices the absence of the philological side of anthropology. Technology also seems to have been neglected. As one might expect, the emphasis has been upon the anatomical and physiological side of the science, as was the case with Broca himself.

A. F. CHAMBERLAIN.

Ambiantism.—In a communication to the Société d'Ethnographie, of which a brief abstract appears in the *Revue Scientifique* (4^e s., xvii, 409), M. Ch. Lemire discusses "ambiantisme." The term seems to be new in French, and the writer of this note suggests its adoption in English in the form *ambiantism*, since it is a brief word and signifies a good deal. By it is meant the phenomenon (and others allied) illustrated on a grand scale in Farther India (Indo-China), where political independence has been retained, while the whole social status has undergone, *e. g.*, a Chinese transformation. This is particularly marked among the Annamese, who have lost their own writing, adopted largely Chinese religion, education, etc., and who call the Chinese *Chu* ("elder brother"). "Ambiantism" is limited or complete. Yunnan, *e. g.*, has undergone "ambiantism" of language, writing, social forms, etc., but not of reli-

gion, the Mohammedans stoutly resisting the last. The Khmers, who have imposed their system of writing on some others of the Thai (Siamese) peoples, have resisted (the opposition has come chiefly from the women) attempts at reforming their language, religion, clothing, etc. British "ambiantism" is counting for not a little now in Siam; the language is being influenced somewhat. There are traces also of French "ambiantism" in Indo-China. Japan, while largely resisting "ambiantism" in language, religion, and partly in education, has taken on the material (economical, industrial, political) "ambiantism" of the modern western nations. "Ambiantism" is a peaceful process distinctly opposed to forcible reform or conquest. A. F. CHAMBERLAIN.

Porto Rican Researches. — Dr J Walter Fewkes of the Bureau of American Ethnology has just returned to Washington after six weeks of field work in Porto Rico. The object of his visit to the island was a reconnoissance to determine the possibilities of future anthropological work there, and the results were highly successful. Although the aborigines of the island as a race have disappeared, pronounced Indian features were found among peons living in the more inaccessible regions of the island, especially in the mountainous districts of Loquillo, near Yunque, and in the neighborhood of Utuado and Ciales. The former region, the "home of the last cacique," offers a rich field for the study of primitive customs, folklore, legends, and arts, some of which are probably survivals of the prehistoric inhabitants of the island.

Dr Fewkes made studies and photographs of the palm-thatched houses at several localities on the coast and in the mountains, and found their construction identical with those of the aborigines of Hayti, as described by Oviedo in 1535. The level places surrounded by slabs of stone set on edge, were investigated and found to be dance plazas rather than "bull courts."

Some time was given to so-called shell-heaps on the northern coast and to the lagoons, ceremonial caves, sculptured stones, and pictography. A number of local collections of prehistoric objects, consisting of "stone collars," zemis, mortuary chairs, amulets, pottery, and stone implements, were studied and drawn or photographed. The most important specimens obtained were two "stone collars" which Dr Fewkes believes will shed much light on the use and significance of these problematical objects. A small collection of rare pamphlets on the history and archeology of Porto Rico by native writers was also made. A report on the material collected during the reconnoissance is in preparation, and it is hoped that a more extended account of the results obtained will be presented in the next issue of this journal.

Dr Gregorio Chíl y Naranjo, whose death occurred at Las Palmas, Grand Canary, July 4, 1901, was an authority on the Canaries and their ancient inhabitants. A pupil of Broca and a physician, he was early led to take an interest in Canarian archeology, on which subject he contributed many articles to the *Congrès des Américanistes* and the *Museo Canario*. When, by the aid of Diego Ripoché, he succeeded in founding at Las Palmas the *Museo Canario*, for which the city furnished a building, he became its director, and remained so until shortly before his death. By will, half his fortune, together with a new building provided by him some few years ago, is given to the Museum, the other half being devoted to charities. He was a member of the *Société d'Anthropologie de Paris*, to whose museum he gave the collection of long-bones so often studied. According to Dr Verneau, who furnishes a brief account of Dr Chíl y Naranjo's life and work to the *Bulletins et Mémoires* (v^e s., II, 446-447) of the Society, he was a man of great zeal and infinite good humor.

A. F. CHAMBERLAIN.

Ethnographical Survey of India.—"The Government of India has undertaken to conduct an Ethnographical Survey of India in connection with the census of 1901," says *Nature* (May 22). "This action was due to the initiative of the British Association at the Dover meeting in 1899. As Mr Risley, the author of 'The Tribes and Castes of Bengal,' has been appointed Director of Ethnography for India, we may feel sure that the Survey will be wisely planned, and we sincerely hope that sufficiently skilled workers are employed and that the usefulness of the Survey will not be impeded through lack of funds. While we are thankful for this official recognition of the claims of anthropology, it is still necessary to repeat, what has so often been urged in the pages of *Nature*, that there is an enormous mass of ethnological material in our Empire beyond the seas which is yearly decreasing at an alarming rate, or is rapidly becoming so modified as to lose its original value. The loss of this vanishing information is supinely permitted by our Government. What a contrast there is," concludes the article, "between the British Government and that of the United States is known only too well by those acquainted with the annual reports of the Bureau of Ethnology."

Bishop Thiel.—Dr Bernhard August Thiel, who died in Costa Rica, September 19, 1901, was born April 1, 1850, in Elberfeld, Prussia. When a young man he entered the order of Lazarists in Cologne, and after the expulsion of his order from Germany, finished his studies in Paris. After fulfilling his priestly duties for many years in Ecuador, he

was made Bishop of Costa Rica in 1880. This necessitated many protracted journeys which led often into unexplored regions, especially to parts that had not been visited by Europeans. Bishop Thiel's reports of these journeys, published in the *Anales del Instituto Físico-Geográfico de Costa Rica*, and his studies of the language of the native tribes, are necessary to an understanding of the ethnology and philology of this important field.

A Primitive "Baby-machine."—Dr W. L. Abbott observed a curious apparatus on Sigoeli river, in Simalur, western Sumatra, called *kilanga anak* ("baby machine"), used for the purpose of teaching infants to walk. A stout pole is pushed through the bamboo floor into the ground below, projecting upward some sixteen inches. On top of this is fitted a cap of bamboo; through the upper portion of the cap, at right angles, is inserted a short stick; the infant leans upon this horizontal pole and walks freely around on the floor. O. T. MASON.

Sumatra-Madagascar Acculturation.—Dr W. L. Abbott mentions rat-traps in Sumatra similar to those which he saw in Antanala, Madagascar, and supposes them to be the result of similar inventions arising from similar wants; but he also states that the blowpipes are the same in the two areas, and as the brown Polynesian race have been long firmly established in Madagascar, it looks more like a case of acculturation. O. T. MASON.

Jakun Elephant Trap.—The Jakuns are said by Dr W. L. Abbott to use a curious caltrop to maim elephants. It is made of the spikes of an old fish-spear inserted into a block of wood. The elephant steps on the barbed spikes and, not being able to draw them out of its foot, is securely captured. Maximilian mentions some such trap set for bears among the tribes of the Great Plains. O. T. MASON.

Simalur Classification.—In Simalur, west coast of Sumatra, according to Dr W. L. Abbott, there are four languages and races—(1) the original Island people who speak several dialects; (2) settlers from Nias, principally from Sigoeli river; (3) Atchinese from the mainland; (4) a very few Malays from the Pedang district. Everyone speaks more or less Malay. O. T. MASON.

American Museums.—In alluding to the account of the progress in anthropology at the Field Columbian Museum, by Dr George A. Dorsey, published in Vol. III of this journal, *Nature*, of London, in its issue of March 20 last says: "Thanks to an energetic and efficient staff and the enlightened liberality of Chicago merchants, the museum is fast

assuming a place in the front rank of the great anthropological museums of the world. This record by Dr Dorsey is enough to make us feel ashamed of ourselves in this country, as it is only a sample of what is being done in other American museums and institutions."

Australian Ethnology.—After an absence of more than a year, the greater part of which was spent among the aborigines of the northern interior of Australia, Prof. Baldwin Spencer and Mr F. J. Gillen returned to Melbourne on March 17. The explorers have brought back a considerable quantity of material, including phonograph and kinematograph records, on which to base an extensive work on the customs, myths, etc., of the various tribes studied.

DR ALEXANDER F. CHAMBERLAIN, assistant professor of anthropology at Clark University, editor of the *Journal of American Folk-Lore*, and member of the editorial board of the *American Anthropologist*, has been made a corresponding member of the Instituto de Coimbra (Coimbra, Portugal), "in recognition of his scientific and literary contributions."

MÉLUSINE.—With the issue for December, 1901, *Mélusine*, the Parisian folklore journal, has suspended publication, for a time at least. The increasing age of the chief editor and founder, Henri Gaidoz, and the illness of his collaborator, E. Rolland, are assigned as the cause for this regrettable event.

ARCHIVIO PER L'ANTROPOLOGIA.—The volume for 1901 of this anthropological journal, just issued at Florence, is a memorial volume dedicated to the thirty years' work of the Italian Anthropological Society.

ARCHIV FÜR ANTHROPOLOGIE.—The recently issued number of the *Archiv für Anthropologie*, Braunschweig, is dedicated to Prof. Rudolf Virchow, in memory of his eightieth birthday and continued scientific activity.

THE LAST NUMBER of *L'Anthropologie* contains an extended account of the life and work of the late Dr Charles Jean Marie Letourneau, sometime president and later general secretary of the Société d'Anthropologie of Paris.

PROF. E. B. TYLOR has resigned the office of keeper of the University Museum, Oxford, but will continue to hold the readership in anthropology, to which he was appointed in 1884.